

Iron County Register.

By E. D. AKE.

IRONTON. : : MISSOURI.

Mrs. McCormack, wife of Rear-Admiral A. H. McCormack, U. S. N. (retired), died at Annapolis, Md., on the 29th.

Exercises in memory of the late Thomas B. Reed were held in both branches of the Maine legislature, on the 28th.

Former President Cleveland eulogized the late Abram S. Hewitt at a memorial meeting in New York, on the 26th.

The cornerstone of the army war college, at Washington, will be laid with military and masonic honors on February 21.

A bill was introduced in congress, on the 29th, increasing the salary of the president of the United States to \$100,000 a year.

Asbury C. Latimer was elected United States senator from South Carolina, on the 27th, to succeed Hon. J. L. Mc Laurin.

A handsomely-engraved memorial was presented to Mrs. McKinley, on the 29th, by a committee of the Society of Sons of the American Revolution.

President Roosevelt was the principal orator at a banquet in Canton, O., on the 27th, given in commemoration of the birthday of William McKinley.

The roof of Lincoln's old home, at Springfield, Ill., caught fire, on the 28th, and only prompt work of the firemen saved the building from destruction.

Walter Stratton Anderson, of Carlinville, Ill., stood sixth in the list of 50 graduates announced by the academic board at Annapolis naval academy, on the 30th.

President Harper announced, on the 28th, that the University of Chicago had absorbed the Illinois college, at Jacksonville, one of the oldest colleges in the west.

Herman Holscher, who attempted to kill Victoria de Cleyre, the anarchist, was sentenced in Philadelphia, on the 29th, to six years and nine months imprisonment.

The city of Chicago began supplying coal, on the 27th, to those who are willing to pay for what they get but are unable to pay the prices asked by the retailers.

Senator Foraker introduced a bill in congress, on the 27th, making citizens of Porto Rico eligible to appointment as candidates at the naval and military academies.

Senator Foraker offered an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, on the 28th, providing for the admission of 50 Porto Rican children to the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa.

Clough, the telegraph operator who is alleged to have been responsible for the terrible disaster on the Southern Pacific road, disappeared, on the 29th, and is believed to have gone to Mexico.

A resolution was introduced in the Kansas legislature, on the 29th, to exclude all negroes from voting in that state, and to require all foreigners to become fully naturalized before voting.

President Roosevelt notified Gov. Nash, on the 29th, that on account of his coming trip to the Pacific coast he would be unable to attend the Ohio centennial celebration, at Chillicothe, in May.

The New York board of aldermen, on the 27th, decided on the purchase by the city of the historic Fraunce's tavern, where Washington took leave of his officers prior to resigning command of the army.

Physicians in attendance on Hon. J. D. Long, former secretary of the navy, gave out the statement, on the 30th, that there was no material improvement in his condition, and that he was a very sick man.

Gov. Yates of Illinois, on the 29th, refused to honor a requisition from the governor of Missouri for the return of Dr. Appel, wanted in Nebo, Mo., on a charge of selling liquor in his drug store without a license.

At the annual banquet of the Confederate Veteran camp, in New York, on the 26th, many prominent union and confederate officers were present. Henry Watterson paid a tribute to the character of Abraham Lincoln.

Col. Oglesby, private secretary, went to Indianapolis, on the 27th, as the bearer of a letter from Gov. Yates to John Mitchell, of the mine workers, offering Mr. Mitchell a place on the Illinois state board of arbitration.

Gov. Yates and William J. Bryan were among the speakers at Jacksonville, on the 30th, when Illinois college celebrated the receipt of endowment gifts of \$200,000 and its recent affiliation with the University of Chicago.

A memorial presented to congress on the 29th, by Gen. John M. Wilson, vice-president of the National Red Cross, asks for legislation that will take the management of the society's affairs out of the hands of a single person—Miss Clara Barton.

The Ohio battlefield commission awarded a contract, on the 30th, for the erection of a monument to Commissary Sergeant William McKinley on the spot where he stood on the battlefield of Antietam and served his comrades with coffee and rations.

Gov. Durbin of Indiana sent a communication, on the 30th, to Read-Admiral Taylor, who commanded the battleship Indiana at Santiago, notifying him that February 23 had been selected as the date for presenting to him the jeweled sword voted by the state.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Summary of Important Events.

FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

(Second Session.) In the senate, on the 28th, Mr. Quay insisted on the consideration of the statehood bill to the exclusion of other business, and objected to a motion by Mr. Platt to call up a committee report providing for the printing of a public document. In reply to a charge by Mr. Hale that he was confining the time of the senate, Mr. Quay replied that this could be obtained by allowing a vote on the statehood bill. The senate went into executive session at the close of which the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was passed. In the house the military academy bill was passed without debate. The Indian bill was taken up, but not completed. A resolution was adopted calling on the postmaster-general for the correspondence in the Indiana (Miss.) post office case.

In the senate, on the 27th, Mr. Quay made an effort to hold a continuous session to consider the statehood bill, but failed to secure the necessary majority. However, to test the sentiment of the senate, the vote standing 11 to 25 in his favor. Within the space of an hour devoted to a speech by Mr. Scott, of West Virginia, on the pension laws, the statehood bill was passed. A bill of general importance passed was one to restrict the right of making intoxicating liquors imported into states subject to the jurisdiction of the state. The bill is designed to prevent evasion, under the original package decision, of liquor laws in prohibition states. The senate bill to increase the salaries of federal judges was also passed.

In the senate, on the 26th, there was a sharp debate when Mr. Rawlins called up his resolution directing the secretary of the senate to amend the records of a number of courts martial held in the Philippines. The debate was participated in by Senators Rawlins, Beveridge, Carmack and Proctor, and was at times of a very bitter character. The amendment was passed, and Mr. Lodge offered an amendment to divide the business of the senate with the statehood bill, but it failed to pass. The house made slow progress with the Indian appropriation bill. Mr. Burton (O.) continued his criticism of the bill, and the Indian appropriation bill, but to little effect, as few reductions were made. Mr. Patterson (Conn.) took an hour and a half on the trust question, and Mr. Reid (Ark.) spoke on good roads.

In the senate, on the 26th, after the transaction of some routine business, Mr. Burrows (Rich.) called up the resolution relating to the death of the late colleague, Hon. James McMillan, and paid an earnest tribute to his memory. He was followed by Senators Johnson, who made a further mark of respect, the senate adjourned. In the house it was the last private claim day of this congress, and 45 private bills were acted on favorably, despite the efforts of Messrs. Cullum, Cannon and others to defeat some of them. Many of the claims were old ones, dating back to the civil war, and some were for stolen goods. A bill was presented for pay of balance on a contract for fuel furnished by the government during the war, the amount claimed being \$80,000, and is at the rate of 30 cents per 100 pounds.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL. W. A. Grove, a merchant of Baraboo, Wis., has been arrested, on the complaint of Rev. C. A. Wright, charged with arson, in having started a fire which destroyed his (Grove's) store, and other properties adjoining.

Maj. Edwin F. Glenn of the Fifth infantry, who was tried by court-martial, at Manila, on the charge of unlawfully killing prisoners of war, has been acquitted. Maj. Glenn has been ordered to return to duty. The verdict is popular.

Enraged over the condemnation of Col. Lynch, in England, Thomas Lynch, an Irishman, aged 55, of Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 29th, in a drunken argument, stabbed James Golden, an Englishman, to death.

United States Senator George G. Vest is confined to his home in Washington. While his condition is not at all alarming he is quite weak and does not respond readily to medical treatment.

An accident on the United States ship Boston, at Vallejo, Cal., on the 30th, caused by a leaky valve, resulted in the death of Edward Lee Baker and the severe injury of Sanford H. Tate, both machinists.

George Stackhouse, sporting editor of the New York Tribune, died suddenly, on the 30th.

Charles F. Schultz, city treasurer of Laporte, Ind., who died on the 30th, aged 47, is said by physicians to have died of old age. They declare he lived half a lifetime in less than a year.

The private car of President Mullen of the Northern Pacific railroad took fire near Phoenix, Ariz., on the 30th, and had a narrow escape from destruction.

Dr. Merrill Wyman, A. M., LL. D., one of America's most distinguished physicians, died at his home in Cambridge, Mass., on the 30th, aged 90 years.

Baron Speck von Sternburg, the new German envoy to Washington, arrived at New York on the steamship Auguste Victoria, on the 30th.

A bill passed the house of the Alabama legislature, on the 30th, prohibiting the sale of cigarettes or cigarette paper in that state.

Members of the German colony in Caracas, Venezuela, who were invited to the celebration of the kaiser's birthday on board the German cruiser Gazette, declined, alleging Germany's unjustifiable aggression as the reason.

Purchase by the United States of the two battleships now being built for Chile in England, and which she will have no need of on account of the disarmament agreement with Argentina, is being officially considered at Washington.

The president has decided to appoint Judge Willis Van Devanter, of Wyoming, to be judge of the Eighth judicial circuit, which comprises 13 states, among them Missouri and Arkansas.

Capt. Henry E. Allen, Sixth cavalry, is detailed as chief of the Philippine constabulary, with the rank of brigadier general. He has been the head of the present force since the organization in July 1901. He is a Kentuckian.

The famous old blockade runner Victory, transformed to a peaceful trader of the Clyde line, and known as the Gulf Stream, stranded on Herford bar, near Cape May, N. J., on the 30th, and will be a total loss. Her crew of 20 men were safely landed.

A movement has been started to get the Indiana legislature, now in session, to purchase the homestead of Oliver P. Morton in Centerville. Morton was Indiana's war governor. The object is to turn the home into a memorial and museum of history.

Attorney General Cunniff, of New York, has written an opinion in which he holds that the offering of a transportation pass to a member of the legislature is a misdemeanor, and that its acceptance by the legislator would constitute a misdemeanor and make him subject to forfeiture of his office.

President Fisher of Hanover college Madison, Ind., has received from Mrs. Eliza C. Hendricks, wife of the late Vice-President Thomas A. Hendricks, a gift of \$25,000 for the erection of a library in memory of her husband.

The police of St. Louis have succeeded in capturing one of the men implicated in the Stevedille (Ill.) bank robbery, in the person of Jerry Hillmyer, together with about \$400 of the stolen money. The others are supposed to be in the city and lying low.

The house committee on post offices and post roads, on the 30th, authorized a favorable report on the bill introduced by Mr. Gardner, of Michigan, to "prevent robbing the mails and to provide a safer and easier method of sending money by mail."

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

In the senate, on the 31st, the greater part of the day was devoted to exercises in connection with the acceptance from the state of Maryland of statues of Charles Carroll and John Hanson, which will henceforth stand in statutory hall in the national capitol. The house bill providing for the creation of a general staff for the army was passed. The statehood bill was not considered, but it holds its place on the calendar. In the house, three hours were consumed in general debate on the post office appropriation bill, during which Mr. Williams (Miss.) spoke in favor of tariff reform. The house then suspended public business and listened to addresses on the life and services of Charles Carroll and John Hanson, whose statues had been presented by the state of Maryland and placed in statutory hall. The death of the late Representative Rumble, of Iowa, was announced, resolutions were adopted, and as a further mark of respect the house adjourned until Sunday, to hold a memorial session to pay tribute to the memory of the late Senator McMillan, of Michigan.

Admiral Dewey, as president of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial association, issued an appeal to the American people, on January 31, for funds to enable the association to erect a memorial to the memory of the man who wrote the declaration of independence.

Gov. Chamberlain of Connecticut ordered out a number of companies of the national guard, on the 1st, to avert threatened violence incident to a strike of the employees of the trolley companies in the city of Waterbury.

Two cars, one of them an immigrant car containing a family of six persons, plunged down an incline at Vicksburg, Miss., on the 1st, and the entire family was drowned.

The Pullman Car Co., on the 1st, posted a notice announcing that on April 1 ten hours' wages will be paid for nine hours' work to every man employed in the shops.

Rev. Fr. D. W. Kenrick, of St. Vincent's church, St. Louis, fell from the platform of a train at El Paso, Tex., on January 30, and died from his injuries next day.

Allison Armour, of Chicago, lunched with Emperor William, at Berlin, on the 1st.

In the senate, on the 2d, the army appropriation bill was under consideration. On request of Mr. Pelrus, who wished to offer some amendments, it went over until the 3d. The statehood bill was up for a short time, Messrs. Bard and Quarles speaking in opposition to it. After a brief executive session the senate adjourned out of respect to the memory of the late Representative Rumble, of Iowa. The house passed about forty bills under suspension of the rules. The most important was a bill to authorize the resumption of the negotiations with Great Britain for the preservation of the Alaska fur seals. The bill appropriating \$1,500,000 for a new department of agricultural building was passed. A bill was passed advancing Brig.-Gen. H. C. Merriam, retired, to the grade of major general on the retired list.

A bill was introduced in congress, on the 2d, to pension all soldiers and sailors who served at least 90 days in the civil war at the rate of \$12 per month, and all widows of such soldiers and sailors who were married prior to June 27, 1890.

Eleven women and children of a colony of Finns on Malcolm's island, off the coast of British Columbia, were burned to death, on January 21, in a fire which destroyed a building occupied by a number of families.

Rumors of the illness of King Edward were circulated in London, on the 2d, but his private secretary said it was simply a feverish cold. An intended visit to Chaworth castle had to be postponed.

Warren L. Wheaton, a former member of the Illinois legislature, died at Wheaton, Ill., the town he founded, on the 1st, aged 91.

A snowstorm, the heaviest of the winter, raged in all sections of Colorado, on the 2d, and many snowslides occurred.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Sellers Was Murdered.

"Bud" Sellers, the 30-year-old son of Dr. Sellers, of Ardmore, I. T., was robbed, murdered and thrown into the shaft of the Zolo mine. Such was the decision of the coroner's jury at Joplin. Sellers, in company with a strange woman, came to Joplin from the Indian territory, but the woman has disappeared. He is known to have had considerable money with him. When last seen he was accompanied by a strange man, who is also missing.

Special Election Called.

A special election will be held at St. Joseph on March 14 to vote on the proposition of appropriating \$300,000 in bonds for new school-houses. The schools are so badly crowded that half sessions are held all over the city. A manual training school will also be added if the bond proposition carries.

Boys Play With Dynamite.

Seven large sticks of dynamite were found in the possession of a number of small boys in St. Joseph. They admitted they had stolen it and were throwing the explosives around in a reckless manner. The boys said they proposed blowing up Buchanan county's historic old jail.

To Exhibit Jesse James' House.

A company is being organized in St. Joseph to move the historic house in which Jesse James was killed to St. Louis for exhibition during the Louisiana Purchase exposition. The house will be floated down the river so as to move it without demolishing it.

Old Land Grant Filed.

A land patent issued to Henry Cooper on May 1, 1843, and signed by John Tyler, president of the United States, was filed for record in the recorder's office at Butler the other day. It is for 320 acres of land, the consideration being \$400.

Confessed to Robbery.

Samuel Hite, a young man under arrest at Chillicothe, has confessed that he and a man named Griffin robbed the store of Russell & Roper at Breckenridge of \$200 worth of silk, part of which has been recovered.

Costly Fire at Dewitt.

Five business houses were destroyed by fire at Dewitt, entailing a loss of \$50,000, distributed as follows: Walther Bros., dry goods; Knappenger, drugs; Barrett, groceries; the post office and a barber shop.

Dockery Offers Reward.

Gov. Dockery has offered a reward of \$300 for the arrest and conviction of James and Adolph Hill, who are charged with the murder of Dan Vance, in New Madrid county, on January 12.

Gov. Dockery Indignant.

Gov. Dockery is indignant over a story published to the effect that, in the interest of economy, convicts in the state penitentiary were not given socks to wear.

"Grandpa" Gilmore Dead.

Samuel W. Gilmore, familiarly known as "grandpa," died at Adrain at the ripe age of 95 years. He was born in Kentucky and located in Missouri in 1857.

Cars Thrown Into River.

A freight train on the Rock Island ran off the track at Buckeye Bend, near Princeton, five cars being thrown into the Grand river. No one was injured.

Lawrence Bash Dead.

Lawrence Bash, the man who staked John W. Mackay with \$10,000 with which to buy the famous Comstock lode, is dead at his home in Boone county.

A Bold Tramp.

A tramp entered the home of A. G. Lewis, of Kirkwood, and exchanged clothes with the latter. He also ate all the food in the pantry and took a shave.

Bad Health Caused Suicide.

Martha Webber, wife of a prominent farmer near Buffalo, committed suicide by shooting herself in the breast. Bad health prompted the deed.

Killed by the "Meteor."

Judge Charles Borberg, an old and highly respected citizen of Franklin county, was run down and killed by the Frisco "Meteor" near Stanton.

The Japanese Exhibit.

J. Kiuchi, Japanese imperial commissioner to the World's fair, has arrived in St. Louis, and promises a splendid exhibit from his country.

Accidentally Killed His Mother.

Mrs. Alice Hoefler was accidentally shot and killed at her home near Booneville by her four-year-old son, who was handling a target rifle.

Appointed a Pension Surgeon.

Dr. R. W. Byus, of Frankfort, has received his appointment as pension surgeon. He will be a member of the pension board at Louisiana.

Missouri Pacific Collision.

A Missouri Pacific passenger train crashed into a switch engine in the yards in Kansas City, and three trainmen were seriously hurt.

Jumped From a Train.

Nathan Syrock died at his home in Pierce City as the result of injuries received by jumping from a moving train.

Woman and Child Burned.

Mrs. Mary Wallace was fatally and her two-year-old son seriously burned by a gasoline explosion at her home in Springfield.

Lamp Exploded in Her Face.

Miss Mary Yelton was burned to death at her home near Wellsville. A lamp she was carrying exploded in her hand.

Four Firemen Badly Hurt.

One man was fatally and three seriously injured in a collision between St. Louis hose wagons while going to a fire.

Quite a Fat Office.

The fees of State Excise Commissioner Seibert, of St. Louis, for 1900, amounted to a total of \$17,011.

ANOTHER PROPOSITION.

Allies' Representatives Propose a Way to Straighten the Venezuelan Debt matter.

NON-BLOCKADING POWERS MUST AGREE.

The Plan Gives the Allies a Certain Per Cent. of the Customs Receipts for a Specified Time, After Which All Claimants Will Be Placed on Same Footing.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Propositions involving a compromise of the allied powers' contention for preferential treatment in the settlement of their claims against Venezuela have been submitted to the governments of Great Britain, Germany and Italy by their representatives at Washington, and while no answers have been received as yet, there is reason for the belief that the allies will see a way to accept the latest proposition. This compromise has been suggested by one of the allies here, and while it has not formally received the endorsement of Minister Bowen, it is felt that he will not enter serious objection to its adoption, provided that the United States and the other claimants outside the alliance can be convinced that their own interests in Venezuela will not be substantially injured by yielding to a plan which seems to offer a solution of the present serious hitch in the Washington negotiations. The details of the proposition now under consideration by the three allied nations are not obtainable, but in a general way it is understood to be a modification of the allies' contention that they be recognized as Venezuela's preferred claimants in the payment of the indemnity.

The plan suggested provides that for a short period, perhaps six months or a year, Great Britain, Germany and Italy shall receive exclusively 30 per cent. of the customs receipts of the ports of Porto Cabello and Laguayra, and that at the end of this period, the exact length of which is yet open to discussion, all the claimant nations be placed on the same footing, and at the expiration of that time the 30 per cent. of the receipts of these two ports be divided among all the claimant nations in ratio based on the amount of each nation's claim. The plan is regarded as a compromise which will enable the allies to withdraw their ships from Venezuelan waters without a serious loss of prestige.

Whether the claimant nations outside the tripartite agreement will assent to this scheme is yet unknown. France has it in her power to continue the present deadlock in the Washington negotiations. For while the other unallied claimants have outstanding against Venezuela certain unadjusted claims, all of the French claims are in a very forward state.

France contends that so far from assisting her in the collection of her Venezuelan claims, the blockade if anything has hampered her, in that it has closed all the Venezuelan ports to commerce and has prevented for the time being the collection of the 15 per cent. of the receipts pledged her by treaty.

It is the hope of the representatives of the allies at Washington that in case their governments accept in principle the kind of compromise suggested, they will not insist that the period for preferential payments be made so long as to prevent its acceptance by the other claimant nations.

ENTIRE FAMILY DROWNED.

A Car Plunges Down an Incline at Vicksburg, Miss., and Carries Six Persons Into River.

Vicksburg, Miss., Feb. 2.—Two cars from a west-bound freight train broke away at the incline of the Queen & Crescent railway here, Sunday night, and rushing down the grade plunged into the river. One was a combination freight and immigration car, and it is stated that it contained a family of six persons bound from a point in eastern Alabama for Arkansas, all of whom were drowned. Neither the names of the immigrants nor the place they were from could be ascertained.

ACQUIT BOTH DEFENDANTS.

Jury in Riley-Cowger Murder Trial at Murphysboro, Ill., Being in Verdict of Not Guilty.

Murphysboro, Ill., Feb. 2.—The jury in the Riley-Cowger murder trial returned a verdict of not guilty at five o'clock Saturday afternoon, after deliberating one hour. Four ballots were taken, in the first three 11 being for acquittal and one for conviction. On the fourth ballot the verdict of not guilty was arrived at. Mrs. Riley will leave for Carleton to reside. Cowger will live at Rose Hill, and left for that place Saturday night.

THIRTEEN PERSONS DROWNED.

Corfu, Island of Corfu, Feb. 1.—The British cruiser Pioneer ran into a torpedo boat destroyer near the channel of Corfu, Saturday, and 13 persons are believed to have been drowned. Two bodies have thus far been picked up.

INDICTED FOR TAX FRAUDS.

New York, Feb. 1.—The grand jury has found indictments against Philip Baer and Nathan Springer, in connection with the alleged swindling of personal taxes by professional "dummies."

WEALTHY PHILADELPHIAN DEAD.

Philadelphia, Feb. 1.—Anthony J. Antelo, a leading financier and a man of great wealth, died of pneumonia Friday night, aged 68 years. He was a director of the Reading Co., and of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co.

KILLED BY PREMATURE EXPLOSION.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Feb. 2.—Frank H. Sanderson, an oil well shooter, was killed by a premature explosion of nitro-glycerine, Sunday, and Fred Krebs fatally injured.

MISSOURI LEGISLATURE.

On the 26th Gov. Dockery, in a special message to the senate, submitted a report of pardons granted from January 1, 1901, to January 1, 1902. There was a total of 145 pardons and commutations of sentence. Forty-two convicts were ordered transferred to an insane asylum and sentence suspended, until the persons are transferred are restored to reason. Sixty-seven convicts were restored to citizenship after having served their terms. Twenty-two holiday pardons were granted and 41 sick pardons. The commutations of sentence numbered 67. Senator Clark introduced a bill to compel railroads to establish automatic signals at all road crossings, and another requiring railroad companies to establish depots at stations where there none.

Mr. Murphy offered a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee of three, to act with a like committee from the senate, to visit the insane asylum at St. Louis and report as to the advisability and practicability of its purchase by the state, to the end that the persons confined there may be supported as are the insane from the counties throughout the state now in the state insane asylum, thus relieving the city from the care of many whose support should not be placed upon it. The resolution was adopted.

Gov. Dockery sent to the senate, on the 25th, the appointment of J. B. Self, of California, and Judge W. M. Williams, of Booneville, as members of the board of the reform school at Booneville. The senate was considering a bill from Greene county citizens, for the creation of the southwest Missouri normal district, from citizens of Montgomery and Nodaway counties for the passage of the law insuring the normal school. The senate listened to the report of the auditing committee appointed to examine into the accounts of the various state officers, and report upon the same. The report was received, and 2,000 copies were ordered printed. The joint resolution adopted in the house was offered by Senator Collins, of St. Louis, asking the governor to proclaim World's Fair day, and was passed by unanimous vote. The joint concurrent resolution adopted in the house providing for the appointment of a joint committee to visit the St. Louis insane asylum and investigate the same with a view to its purchase by the state and its conversion into a state institution was presented and adopted, or motion of Senator Smith, in whose district the institution is located.

In the senate, on the 25th, the alien bill came up, and after a long debate, which was participated in by many of the senators, the bill was passed. The measure was postponed, and it was made the special order for Tuesday, February 3, following. The bill was reported by committee. To regulate the practice of optometry for support and to amend an act increasing the salary of the commissioner of the permanent seat of government; to sell the present furniture of the senate chamber (amended to empower the committee to purchase new furniture); to amend a bill relating to the salaries of the recorder at Clayton; increasing circuit judges' salaries in certain districts; relating to orders of removal from office by appointment by the court of an attorney to cross-examine plaintiffs in default of cases; to regulate the manner of selecting petit jurors. At the 26th session, the senate passed a number of house bills.

In the house, Mr. Farley, of Platte, introduced a bill to relieve overworking in street cars. It provides that no car shall be charged a fare not exceeding five cents shall, when it fails to provide seats, be charged more than half the fare. Violations of the act are made punishable by a fine of \$50.

The senate, on the 25th, took up the contested election case of Wilbur F. Parker against William B. Kinsley, for the seat in the Twenty-fourth district, St. Louis, and by a strict party vote voted down the minority motion to commit the case to a committee. Senator Sullivan was absent. Mr. Kinsley did not vote, and Messrs. John L. Bruns, Schaubert and Heather were absent when the vote was taken. Senator McIndoe introduced in the house a bill to amend an act to duplicate of that which was known as the Hepburn bill in congress, but now referred to as the McIndoe bill.

One of the contests in the house was disposed of, leaving two others still unsettled. The one brought to a close came from Dent county, and the election committee, by a unanimous vote, decided in favor of W. A. Elmer, captain of the 10th regiment. The Everole-Debus case figured again in the proceedings. The Wilson case, introduced by a majority of the elections committee, was voted down, and a motion that it be referred back to the committee clerk, for a recount of the votes of Liberty township, and a report on the same to be made to the house not later than February 6, was adopted.

The senate, on the 30th, passed three bills which had originated in that body. One requires railroads to pay their employees once every 30 days, with an allowance of ten days for making up the pay roll and distributing the money over the system. Another was a bill allowing traveling expenses and board to court stenographers in counties having 4,000 population, where they are required to attend terms of court in counties other than their own. The third bill was a bill relating to incurring and limiting indebtedness of cities not more than \$200 and not less than 2,000 inhabitants, and is an enabling act for the purpose of putting into effect one of the constitutional amendments adopted at the last election.

In the house, Representative Farley introduced a bill in relation to school text books. It makes no provision for a school book commission, but gives to the superintendent of public schools authority to contract for text-books on spelling, grammar, United States history and English history. Such contracts are to be made July 1, 1903, and continue for a term of six years, or until otherwise provided by law. School boards are given the option of using the books at present in use or in adopting those which may be contracted for by the superintendent mentioned in this bill.

COSTLY FIRE AT DEWITT, MO.

The Business Portion of the Town Suffers a Loss of \$50,000, Including the Post Office.

Dewitt, Mo., Jan. 31.—Five business houses were destroyed by fire here early Friday morning, causing an aggregate loss of \$50,000, distributed among the following firms: Walther Bros., dry goods; Knappenger, drugs; Barrett, groceries; the post office and a barber shop.